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SIPDIS

DEPT FOR BRIANNE MARWAHA, NEA/IR AND STEVEN LETT, EEB

EO 12958 DECL: 02/02/2020  
TAGS PREL, PGOV, ETTC, ECPS, TSPA, IR, UK, FR  
SUBJECT: IRAN: HMG BRIEFS ON IRIG JAMMING OF BBC, VOA  
BROADCASTS; REQUESTS LOBBYING ASSISTANCE  
REF: MURRAY/MARWAHA E-MAILS 02/02/2010

Classified By: Political Minister-Counselor Greg Berry, reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

1. (S) SUMMARY: Embassy London Iran Watcher (poloff) met February 3 with Jaime Turner, Deputy Head of Multi-lateral Affairs at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office's Iran Group, briefed poloff on the IRIG's jamming of BBC and VOA broadcasts.
2. (S) Jaime Turner, Deputy Head of Multi-lateral affairs at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office's Iran Group, briefed poloff on the IRIG's jamming of BBC and VOA broadcasts.
3. (S) In an informal survey conducted by the British Embassy in Tehran, the UK found that less than 15 percent of people in Tehran have access to the Internet.
4. (S) While lodging complaints at the ITU has symbolic value, Turner said her government recognizes the body has no enforcement authority. The UK will continue to lobby the ITU to take action against the IRIG.
5. (S) In the immediate term, HMG plans to lobby the French government to approach Eutelsat and press it to drop IRIB broadcasts from the Hot List. Visit London's Classified Website: [http://www.intelink.sgov.gov/wiki/Portal:United\\_Kingdom](http://www.intelink.sgov.gov/wiki/Portal:United_Kingdom)